

Message Text

SECRET

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16

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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O P 230741Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4640

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA PRIORITY

S E C R E T SEOUL 9874

EXDIS

EO 11652: EGDS

TAGS: MNUC, PARM, KS

SUBJECT: ROK NUCLEAR PROCESSING.

REF: A. SEOUL 9662, B. SEOUL 9786 (PARA 5)

1. ON DECEMBER 23, I HAD FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO TALK AT GREATER LENGTH WITH FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER KIM TONG-CHO WITH REGARD TO HIS ASIDE TO ME ON PROGRESS WITH RESPECT REPROCESSING ISSUE (REF B).

2. KIM SAID THAT FOLLOWING OUR PRIOR DISCUSSION (REF A PARA 10) HE HAD REVIEWED PROBLEM WITHIN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THEN MET WITH PRIME MINISTER KIM CHONG-P'IL. HE GAVE KIM CHONG-P'IL HIS OPINION THAT ISSUE WAS OF HIGHEST IMPORTANCE AND USG WAS NOT REPEAT NOT BLUFFING. ACCORDING KIM, PRIME MINISTER ASKED HIM TO PASS HIS VIEW ON TO PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARY GENERAL KIM CHONG-YOM, WHICH FONMIN DID EARLY LAST WEEK.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY DURING WEEK KIM REPORTED THAT THERE WAS BLUE HOUSE MEETING ATTENDED BY PRESIDENT PARK, PRIME MINISTER, KIM CHONG-YOM AND PERHAPS OTHERS. AFTER THIS MEETING PRIIME MINISTER CALLED IN FORMER FONMIN KIM AND
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INFORMED HIM THAT PURCHASE OF NUCLEAR REPROCESSING FACILITY

WAS "INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED."

4. FORMER FONMIN VENTURED HIS OWN OPINION TO ME THAT HE DOUBTED WHETHER PROJECT WOULD BE REVIVED, BUT ALSO DOUBTED THAT ROKG WOULD FORMALLY CANCEL PURCHASE, GIVEN HIGH PRESTIGE FACTORS INVOLVED.

5. COMMENT: WHILE KIM'S REPORT OF INDEFINITE SUSPENSION REQUIRES OFFICIAL VERIFICATION, IT TENDS TO SUBSTANTIATE OTHER INDICATIONS THAT WE ARE MAKING PROGRESS ON NUCLEAR REPROCESSING ISSUE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR ENERGY, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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